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Thursday, December 14, 2017 metro.us | t: MetroPhilly | f: MetroPhilly

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WELCOME TO METRO PHILLY

SAM NEWHOUSE, REPORTER

While Philly was lashed by bitter gusts of frigid wind Wednesday, a mother and her four children from Mexico took sanctuary in a Kensington church, fleeing a deportation order issued after their asylum petition was denied. The family says they intend to remain in sanctuary until they win reprieve from the deportation order. Read all about it inside and at **metrophilly.us.**

JUDGE ORDERS NY BOMBER DETAINED AHEAD OF TRIAL

1 The Bangladeshi man accused of attempting a suicide bombing in a busy New York City commuter hub will remain in federal custody while he awaits trial on charges that include supporting a foreign terrorist organization, a judge ruled. Akayed Ullah appeared by video for a hearing from his bed in Bellevue Hospital, where he was recovering from injuries he suffered when his homemade bomb ignited but failed to detonate. Ullah was covered with a white blanket and remained largely expressionless as Magistrate Judge Katharine Parker told him that he had a right to an attorney and did not have to make any statements. Assistant U.S. Attorney Shawn Crowley asked that Ullah be detained without bail. Ullah's court-appointed attorney, Amy Gallichio, did not dispute the request, meaning her client that will not be released on bail.

MINNESOTA LT. GOV. TO REPLACE FRANKEN

2 Minnesota's Democratic Lt. Gov. Tina Smith was appointed as U.S. senator on Wednesday to replace Al Franken, who resigned after being accused of sexual harassment. Smith, 59, will serve a one-year term concluding in January 2019, Governor Mark Dayton said at a news conference, and will run in a special election for the seat in November next year. Dayton said he listened to the views of many Minnesotans before deciding on Smith. "There is no one I trust more to assume the responsibilities of this important office," Dayton said. "I know that she will be a superb senator, representing the best interests of our state and our citizens." Smith told reporters at the news conference that she will be a fierce advocate on behalf of the state, pushing for economic opportunity and fairness.

WEST BANK PROTEST

3 Israeli undercover police officers detain a protester as they intervene in a demonstration against President Donald Trump's recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital, near Beit El Checkpoint in Ramallah, West Bank on Wednesday.

GETTY IMAGES

UN EXPERT: TORTURE PERSISTS AT GITMO

4 An independent U.N. human rights investigator said that he had information about an inmate being tortured at the U.S. Guantanamo Bay detention facility, despite Washington banning "enhanced interrogation techniques" almost 10 years ago. The U.S. Department of Defense denied the allegation, saying there was no credible evidence to support it. Nils Melzer, the U.N. special rapporteur on torture, said he had information that Ammar al-Baluchi — accused of being a co-conspirator in the 9/11 attacks on the United States — was being subjected to treatment that is banned under international law. "His torture and ill-treatment are reported to continue," a statement from the U.N. human rights office said, without giving details of the source of Melzer's information.

WH: NOT RIGHT TIME FOR NORTH KOREA TALKS

5 No negotiations can be held with North Korea until it improves its behavior, a White House official said on Wednesday, raising questions about U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson's offer to begin talks with Pyongyang any time and without pre-conditions. "Given North Korea's most recent missile test, clearly right now is not the time," a White House official told Reuters. Tillerson said on Tuesday the United States was "ready to talk any time North Korea would like to talk," appearing to back away from a key U.S. demand that Pyongyang must first accept that any negotiations would have to be about giving up its nuclear arsenal. The White House has declined to say whether President Donald Trump, who has taken a tougher rhetorical line against North Korea than Tillerson, gave approval for the overture.

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An undocumented Mexican woman, Carmela, seen with microphone, beside Church of the Advocate's Rev. Renee McKenzie, entered sanctuary at the church with her four children on Wednesday. HARVEY FINKLE

Immigrant woman facing deportation enters sanctuary at Philadelphia church

A Mexican woman and her four children find sanctuary at historic black church.

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As federal immigration enforcement has openly targeted sanctuary cities like Philadelphia for increased enforcement, an undocumented family on Wednesday publicly entered sanctuary at a local church.

A family of five undocumented immigrants from Mexico, mother Carmela and her children Edwin, 9, Yoselin, 11, Keyri, 13, and Fidel, 15, entered their new home at the Church of the Advocate in Kensington on Wednesday morning with the support of the New Sanctuary Movement (NSM). They plan to stay there "until they win a reprieve from deportation," NSM said.

"I am taking sanctuary to fight for my family, to protest our deportation orders and the injustices of the immigration systems," Carmela said in a statement. "Everybody deserves to live with dignity and safety."

According to NSM, Carmela's family petition for asylum in the U.S. was denied, and they were issued a deportation order. The group said the family immigrated while fleeing "the violence of the U.S.-backed drug wars in Mexico," saying that three close family members have lost their lives and Carmela and her oldest daughter have been physically assaulted.

"Should Carmela and her children be deported, their lives will be in imminent danger," NSM said in a statement.

ICE did not respond to requests for comment on Carmela's family entering sanctuary by press time.

But Carmela's family has reason to be optimistic: Undocumented immigrants have twice entered sanctuary in Philly previously, and both left with positive outcomes.

In January 2015, immigrant Angela Navarro got a two-year stay on a deportation order she was facing just two months after she entered sanctuary at West Kensington Ministry. Javier Flores, a Philly resident since 1997, was in sanctuary for one year at Arch Street United Methodist Church in Center City. He left in October after his case was moved to the "deferred action" list.

Since President Donald Trump rose to the White House in part on a wave of tough talk on immigration and promises to build a wall across the border with Mexico, Philly and other sanctuary cities have experienced a crackdown of arrests and detainments of immigrants.

In September, 107 people were arrested in Philly, one-fifth of the total number detained in a nationwide raid dubbed "Operation Safe City," which targeted sanctuary cities like Philly, such as Chicago, New York and L.A., which have in place policies limiting cooperation between local law enforcement and immigration authorities.

"ICE is forced to dedicate more resources to conduct at-large arrests in these communities," ICE acting Director Tom Homan said at the time, going on to accuse sanctuary cities of "shielding criminal aliens from immigration enforcement and creating a magnet for illegal immigration."

Attorney General Jeff Sessions previously attempted to cut Philly off from receiving a federal law enforcement grant worth some $2 million in retaliation for its sanctuary city policies, a move that was blocked by a U.S. District Court judge.

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SHOE CARNIVAL

Voters for Trump came from areas with worsening public health, Drexel study finds

Increasing so-called "deaths of despair" among white voters correlate with votes for Trump, Drexel study finds.

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One year after President Donald Trump won the 2016 election, many people still are asking the same question: Why? Why? Why?

It's not just a left-wing stance, but something even detached political observers have asked, given that Trump won in areas which previously went Democrat for Barack Obama in 2008 and 2012, like Northampton County.

A study out of Drexel University's Urban Health Collaborative may provide a clue, with a new paper finding that counties that went for Trump tended to have high health inequality and increasing mortality rates for middle-aged whites.

"It basically started the night of the election. I was looking at a map of where voting for Trump was most intense," said Usama Bilal, M.D., Ph.D., a postdoctoral research fellow at Drexel. "I thought, 'This looks like the same area where we have had a worsening of public health in the last three years. What if this is actually the case?'"

The hypothesis was proven true, after Bilal, along with fellow academics Emily Knapp of Johns Hopkins and Richard Cooper of Loyola University in Chicago, studied data from 2,764 counties across the country, representing 91 percent of the nation's counties.

Their paper, published in Social Science and Medicine, found counties that went Democratic in 2008 and 2012 but flipped Republican in 2016, averaged an increase of 10.7 deaths per 100,000 people among white, middle-aged (45-54) citizens. Counties that had gone Democratic before and stayed Democratic showed a decrease of 15.7 deaths per 100,000 in the same group.

These trends were consistent across states key to Trump's win: Iowa, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Wisconsin and Florida. They also held true regardless of how the counties voted in the past elections, with counties that went Republican showing an increase in mortality rates among this demographic.

The study also looked at health inequality, based on comparing life expectancies for the wealthiest 25 percent versus the poorest 25 percent in those counties, and found it was widest in counties that voted Republican.

"Health inequalities are a sign of a society that does not do enough to protect people that don't have enough," Bilal said. "What we are thinking about is, 'Is this worsening of mortality rates a marker of something deeper?' … We think this is the result of worsening in other things, employment, economic opportunity, etc."

While Bilal said this study was limited to just mortality rates and health inequality, other academics have termed recent increases in mortality among whites — typically precipitated by alcohol/opiate abuse or suicide — "deaths of despair."

"We entertain the idea that mortality itself is a marker of underlying social conditions that are often reflecting changing political landscapes," Bilal said. "We should consider public health as a potent marker of social upheaval. Moreover, the health of the electorate — especially those middle-aged folks who are dying prematurely — is central to a democracy."

Counties that voted for Donald Trump have been linked to places with worsening public health. GETTY IMAGES

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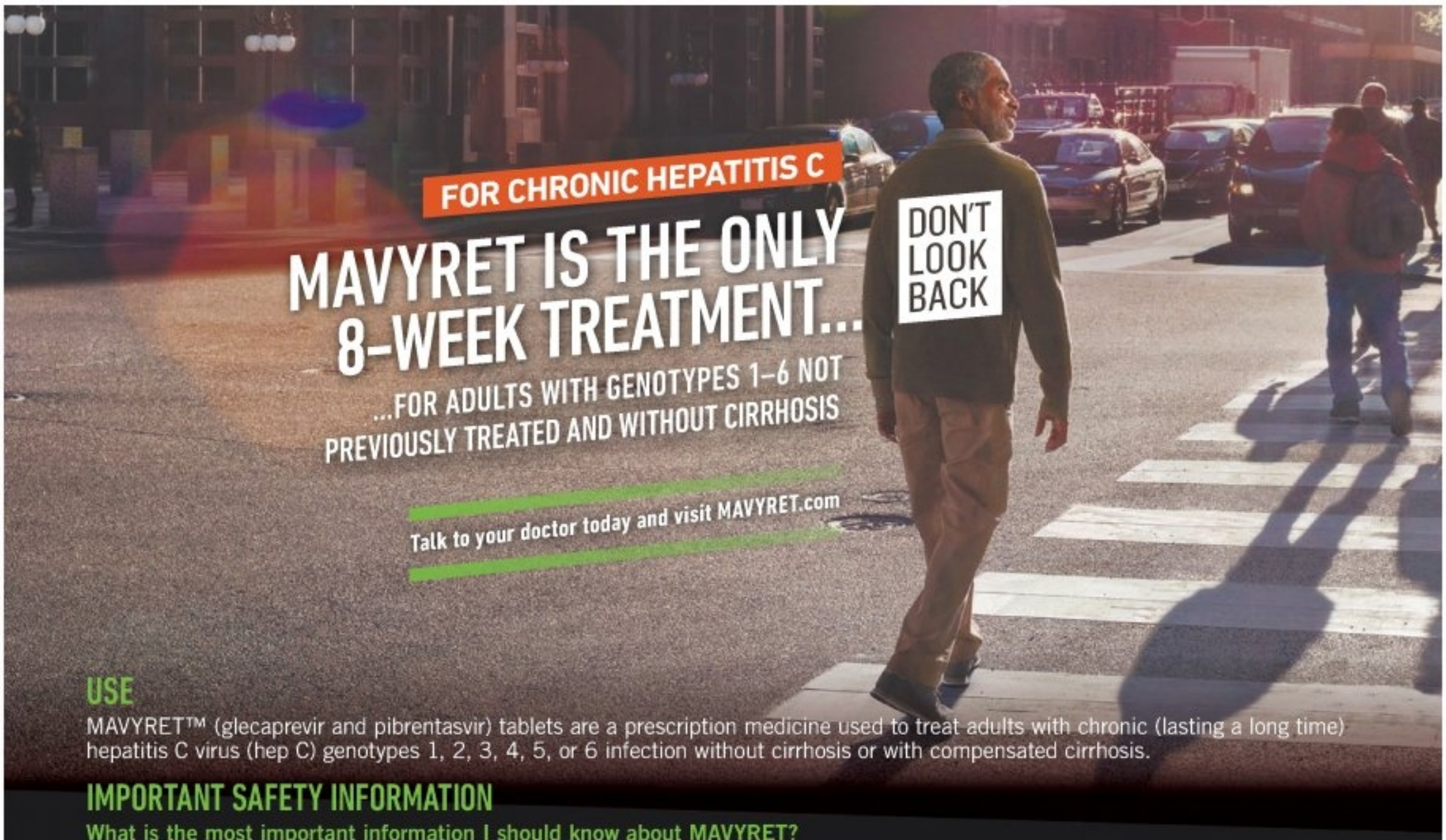
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IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

What is the most important information I should know about MAVYRET?

Hepatitis B virus reactivation: Before starting treatment with MAVYRET, your doctor will do blood tests to check for hepatitis B virus infection. If you have ever had hepatitis B virus infection, the hepatitis B virus could become active again during or after treatment of hepatitis C virus with MAVYRET. Hepatitis B virus becoming active again (called reactivation) may cause serious liver problems including liver failure and death. Your doctor will monitor you if you are at risk for hepatitis B virus reactivation during treatment and after you stop taking MAVYRET.

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What should I tell my doctor before taking MAVYRET?

- If you have ever had hepatitis B virus infection, liver problems other than hep C infection, or any other medical conditions.
- If you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant, or if you are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed. It is not known if MAVYRET will harm your unborn baby or pass into your breast milk. Talk to your doctor about the best way to feed your baby if you take MAVYRET.
- **About all the medicines you take,** including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements. MAVYRET and other medicines may affect each other. This can cause you to have too much or not enough MAVYRET or other medicines in your body. This may affect the way MAVYRET or your other medicines work, or may cause side effects.
  - **Do not start taking a new medicine without telling your doctor.** Your doctor can tell you if it is safe to take MAVYRET with other medicines.

What are the common side effects of MAVYRET?

- The most common side effects of MAVYRET are headache and tiredness.

These are not all of the possible side effects of MAVYRET. Tell your doctor if you have any side effect that bothers you or that does not go away.

This is the most important information to know about MAVYRET. For more information, talk to your doctor or healthcare provider.

You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit www.fda.gov/medwatch or call 1-800-FDA-1088.

If you cannot afford your medication, contact www.pparx.org for assistance.

Please see a brief summary of the full Prescribing Information on the following page.

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What is the most important information I should know about MAVYRET?

MAVYRET can cause serious side effects, including:

Hepatitis B virus reactivation. Before starting treatment with MAVYRET, your doctor will do blood tests to check for hepatitis B virus infection. If you have ever had hepatitis B virus infection, the hepatitis B virus could become active again during or after treatment of hepatitis C virus with MAVYRET. Hepatitis B virus becoming active again (called reactivation) may cause serious liver problems including liver failure and death. Your doctor will monitor you if you are at risk for hepatitis B virus reactivation during treatment and after you stop taking MAVYRET.

For more information about side effects, see the section "What are the possible side effects of MAVYRET?"

What is MAVYRET?

- MAVYRET is a prescription medicine used to treat adults with chronic (lasting a long time) hepatitis C virus (HCV) genotypes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 infection without cirrhosis or with compensated cirrhosis.

MAVYRET contains the two medicines: glecaprevir and pibrentasvir.

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Before taking MAVYRET, tell your doctor about all of your medical conditions, including if you:

- have ever had hepatitis B virus infection
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- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if MAVYRET will harm your unborn baby.
- are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed. It is not known if MAVYRET passes into your breast milk. Talk to your doctor about the best way to feed your baby if you take MAVYRET.

Tell your doctor about all the medicines you take, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements.

MAVYRET and other medicines may affect each other. This can cause you to have too much or not enough MAVYRET or other medicines in your body. This may affect the way MAVYRET or your other medicines work, or may cause side effects.

Keep a list of your medicines to show your doctor and pharmacist.

- You can ask your doctor or pharmacist for a list of medicines that interact with MAVYRET.
- **Do not start taking a new medicine without telling your doctor.** Your doctor can tell you if it is safe to take MAVYRET with other medicines.

How should I take MAVYRET?

- Take MAVYRET exactly as your doctor tells you to take it. Do not change your dose unless your doctor tells you to.
- Do not stop taking MAVYRET without first talking with your doctor.
- Take 3 MAVYRET tablets at one time each day.
- Take MAVYRET with food.
- It is important that you do not miss or skip doses of MAVYRET during treatment.
- If you miss a dose of MAVYRET and it is:
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  - More than 18 hours from the time you usually take MAVYRET, do not take the missed dose. Take your next dose as usual with food.

If you take too much MAVYRET, call your doctor or go to the nearest hospital emergency room right away.

What are the possible side effects of MAVYRET?

MAVYRET can cause serious side effects, including:

- **Hepatitis B virus reactivation.** See "What is the most important information I should know about MAVYRET?"

The most common side effects of MAVYRET include headache and tiredness.

These are not all the possible side effects of MAVYRET.

Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

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Here's a friendly reminder to water your Christmas trees

Protect yourself and your home this holiday season with fire safety tips. GETTY IMAGES

Christmas trees signify love, life (unless it's Home Depot artifical) and happiness — and we've learned a lot of things about them this year.

For starters, there's a scarce supply in some parts of the country. They could be filled with bugs on bugs (up to 25,000), and there are, as it turns out, ways to decorate them like never before (think vertical lights).

With the holiday season in full swing — and your trees hopefully decked out to the fullest — it's important to keep safety in mind.

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) recently came out with a public service announcement warning people about the dangers of parched Christmas trees. If under-watered, they will burn faster than newspaper and be engulfed in flames in seconds, while watered spruce won't catch flame nearly as quickly. "Safety should be part of all your decorating efforts," said CPSC Acting Chairman Ann Marie Buerkle in an online statement. "Make sure your live Christmas tree has plenty of water, keep lit candles away from flammable items, and use caution when standing on a ladder or a chair to hang decorations."

The CPSC site also provide further tips to prevent trees from catching fire. A few of the most important include:

- Buy a tree that is fresh
- Pick a "fire resistant" artificial tree
- Avoid breakable decorations
- Place trees away from heat sources
- Extinguish all candles before leaving a room
- Have working smoke alarms on every floor

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) reported that U.S. fire departments responded to an annual average of 200 home Christmas tree fires between 2011 and 2015. Each year, these fires caused an average of six deaths, 16 injuries and $14.8 million in direct property damage. SAM BRODSKY

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A white-hat hacker is a computer hacker who uses his skills for ethical, constructive purposes instead of theft, destruction or exploitation. GETTY IMAGES

White-hat hackers: Who are they and what do they do?

Fast facts about a hot and lucrative job in the digital world.

MICHAEL MARTIN
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White-hat hackers recently popped into the news on Monday when attorneys for a private investigator from Louisiana named Jordan Hamlett used, as his defence, that he was acting as a "white-hat hacker" when he tried to use President Trump's Social Security information to gain access to his tax returns.

Hamlett claims he tried to access IRS servers six times "out of sheer curiosity" to check the security of the government office's website security. He also cited past instances in which he has helped other organizations by acting as a white-hat hacker on their behalf.

A white-hat hacker is a computer hacker who uses his skills for ethical, constructive purposes instead of theft, destruction or exploitation. Most often, they're computer-security specialists who are hired to break into computer systems to expose vulnerabilities in the systems and make them stronger. They find malicious (black hat) hackers' most likely ways in, before the hackers do.

According to an August 2017 report by CBS News, many white-hat hackers are located in India. One of the world's best white-hat hackers, Sandeep Singh, nicknamed "Geekboy," told CBS he had been hired by companies such as Microsoft, Facebook, Twitter, Uber and AirBnb to break into their systems and help them patch weak spots. The companies pay handsomely for the help. "How much I make in one day, my friends make in one year," said Singh.

"Gray hat hackers" are specialists who alternate between doing white-hat and black hat tasks.

There are even white-hat-hacker conferences, such as HackerOne, held in Las Vegas, where white-hat hackers compete in penetrating the systems of cooperating companies for prizes.

White-hat hackers will likely be key to upgrading the vulnerable U.S. voting infrastructure. In October 2017, after reports that Russian hackers attempted to breach voting systems in 21 states during the 2016 election, the annual DefCon hosted a Voting Machine Hacking Village to inform the computer-security industry about vulnerabilities in voting systems and to get them involved in fixing them. White-hat hackers were set loose on five different voting machines to see how quickly they could be breached. They cracked into the first one in about 90 minutes. "This software just isn't up to modern standards. It's not even as strongly protected as a PC," said one security expert.

In late November, the UK's National Health Service announced it was hiring white-hat hackers to prevent another WannaCry, a widespread ransomware attack that crippled healthcare providers' systems. On Tuesday, the Singapore government invited white-hat hackers to break into its defense ministry's systems, offering bounties to hackers who were able to do so.

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POLITICS

Two Trump judicial nominations rebuffed by Senate

Two of President Donald Trump's judicial nominees will not be confirmed by the Republican-controlled Senate following criticism over controversial statements they made, a White House official said.

The official said Wednesday the two nominations "will not be moving forward."

One of the nominees, Brett Talley, selected for a district court position in Alabama, had already said he would withdraw.

The other, Jeff Mateer, nominated to serve as a district court judge in Texas, was already hanging by a thread although he had not officially withdrawn.

Sen. Chuck Grassley, a Republican who chairs the influential Senate committee that overseas judicial nominations, said Wednesday that he "doesn't anticipate that either nominee would be confirmed," a spokesman said.

Talley was reported by online magazine Slate as having posted online sympathetic comments about the early history of the Ku Klux Klan. He also failed to disclose that his wife works in the White House Counsel's office, which overseas judicial nominations.

Mateer has run into trouble over speeches he made in 2015. In one, he referred to transgender children as being part of "Satan's plans," CNN reported. REUTERS

Republicans craft tax deal; final vote expected next week

Speaker Paul Ryan looks on as President Trump discusses tax reform in the Cabinet Room of the White House. GETTY IMAGES

The bill would be the first major legislative victory for Trump and the Republicans since they took control of the White House and both chambers of Congress.

Congressional Republicans reached a deal on final tax legislation Wednesday, clearing the way for final votes next week on a package that would slash the U.S. corporate tax rate to 21 percent and cut taxes for wealthy Americans.

Under an agreement between the House of Representatives and the Senate, the corporate tax would be one percentage point higher than the 20 percent rate earlier proposed, but still far below the present headline rate of 35 percent, a deep tax reduction that corporations have sought for years.

As they finalized the biggest tax overhaul in 30 years, Republicans wavered for weeks on whether to slash the top income tax rate for the wealthy. But in the end, they agreed to cut it to 37 percent from 39.6 percent. This was despite criticism from Democrats that the Republican plan tilts toward the rich and corporations, offering little to the middle class.

"I think we've got a pretty good deal," Senate Finance Committee Chairman Orrin Hatch told reporters.

The emerging agreement would repeal the corporate alternative minimum tax, set up to ensure profitable companies pay some federal tax, and expand a proposed $10,000 cap for state and local property tax deductions to also include income tax, lawmakers and sources familiar with the negotiations said.

The agreement would also gut part of the Obamacare health law by repealing a federal fine on individuals who fail to obtain health insurance, while authorizing oil drilling in Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. Both add-on measures were part of nailing down sufficient votes for passage.

Further details of the agreed legislation were not yet available. A final bill could be formally unveiled as early as Friday, with decisive votes coming next week.

Moving the corporate tax target rate to 21 percent from 20 percent gave tax writers enough revenue to make the tax cuts immediate, Republican Sen. Ron Johnson said.

In a White House speech, Trump said the Internal Revenue Service has advised that if he signs the bill into law before Christmas, the tax cuts would take effect in February.

"If Congress sends me a bill before Christmas, the IRS ... has just confirmed that Americans will see lower taxes and bigger paychecks beginning in February," he said.

The IRS had no immediate comment.

A Trump administration official said the IRS will have to readjust its paycheck tax withholding tables for employers and that new withholding levels would take effect in February.

Under the bill, tax returns being filed next year for 2017 would not be affected, but returns filed in 2019 for 2018 would.

Trump appeared in the White House with several middle-class families that he said would benefit from the tax bill.

The Joint Committee on Taxation and the Congressional Budget Office, both nonpartisan research units of Congress, have forecast that rich taxpayers and businesses would gain disproportionately from the debt-financed Republican proposals.

As drafted, the Republican plan was expected to add as much as $1.5 trillion to the $20-trillion national debt in 10 years. With that in view, Republicans have been urgently trying to finalize details without increasing its estimated impact on the federal deficit and the debt. REUTERS

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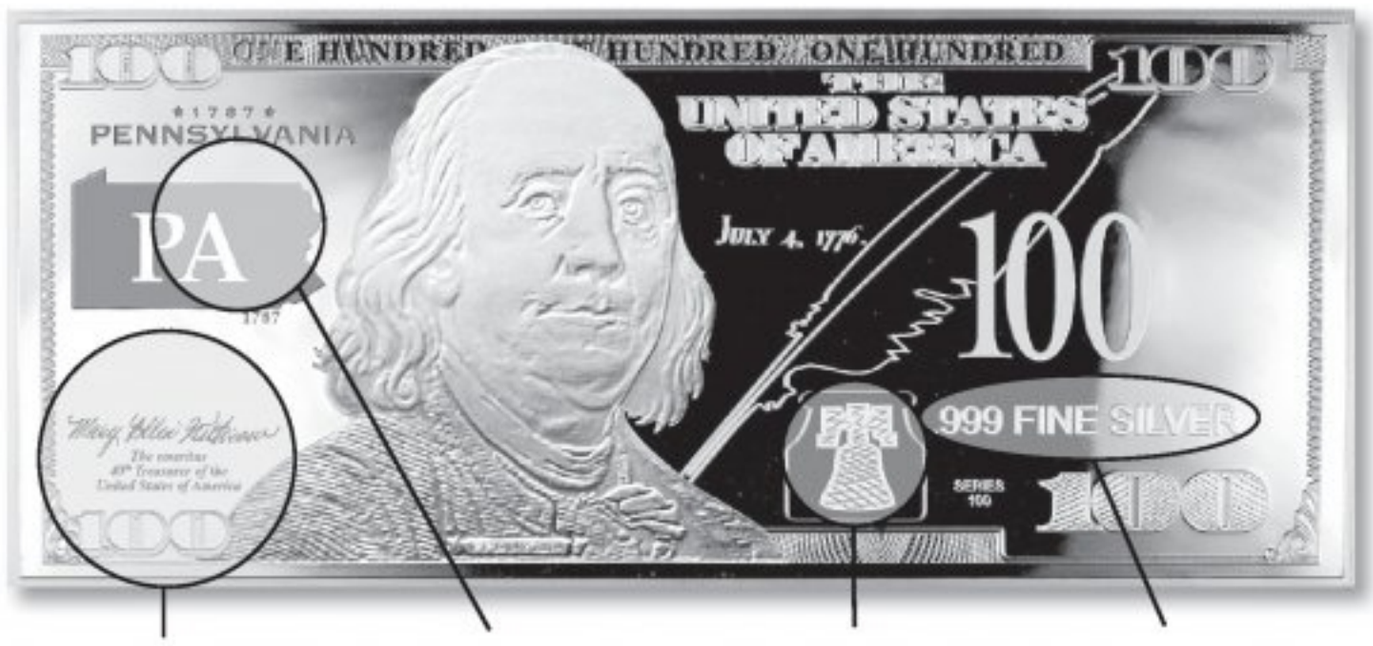

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Pennsylvania – The vaults at the Federated Mint are nearly empty.

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Everyone who does is getting individual Pennsylvania State Silver 100's at just the state minimum of $99 set by the Federated Mint. That's why everyone should be taking full Vault Stacks (pictured in the bottom

(Continued on next page)

■ **PENNSYLVANIA RESIDENTS GET 20 STATE SILVER 100'S FREE:** Pictured above is the never before seen entire 50 State Silver 100's Collection™ shown off by officials from the Federated Mint that everyone is trying to get. Lucky Pennsylvania residents who are among the first 17,544 callers who beat the 48 hour order deadline to claim the 50 State Silver 100's Collection are actually getting 20 State Silver 100's absolutely free, the custom made State Treasury Display Chest is $285, but it's absolutely free for Pennsylvania residents plus free shipping and free handling too. That means Pennsylvania residents cover just the $99 state minimum set by the Federated Mint for the remaining 30 State Silver 100's which is a real steal because it's saving every Pennsylvania resident over two thousand dollars today.

(Continued from previous page)

right hand corner of today's newspaper) each loaded with three Pennsylvania State Silver 100's before they're all gone.

And here's the best part. Pennsylvania residents lucky enough to be among the first callers to claim the entire 50 State Silver 100's Collection™, pictured bottom left, are also getting 20 State Silver 100's absolutely free.

"I'm advising everyone in Pennsylvania who finds their zip code on today's Distribution List to get to their phones right now because the new Pennsylvania State Silver 100's are only being released to the first 17,544 callers," Withrow said.

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"We're bracing for all the calls and doing everything we can to make sure no one gets left out. So if lines are busy keep trying, all calls will be answered," said Withrow. ■

PENNSYLVANIA RESIDENTS CALL: 1-866-637-3509 and use EXT. FMP527 if you find the first three digits of your zip code listed on the Distribution List below

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The Toll Free Hotlines open at precisely 8:30am this morning for Pennsylvania residents only. If lines are busy keep trying, all calls will be answered. If you miss the deadline you'll be turned away from this offer and forced to wait for future announcements in this publication or others, if any.

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■ **WHAT EVERYONE WANTS:** Pictured left reveals for the very first time the valuable Pennsylvania State Silver 100's struck in high relief .999 pure fine silver loaded inside each Vault Stack. Pictured right are the Vault Stacks containing three of the only Pennsylvania State Silver 100's known to exist. Residents who find their zip code listed above are authorized to get individual Pennsylvania State Silver 100's at just $99 state resident minimum set by the Federated Mint. That's why everyone should be taking full Vault Stacks each loaded with three Pennsylvania State Silver 100's before they're all gone. And here's the best part. Every Pennsylvania resident who gets at least two Vault Stacks is also getting free shipping and free handling too. That's a real steal because all non-state residents must pay over six hundred dollars for each Vault Stack.

According to researchers, being stubborn can help you live longer

Stubborn people live a lot longer, at least in Italy.

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@MetroPhilly
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Are you constantly scolded for being "too stubborn" in your beliefs?

Well, tell those naysayers to kick rocks, because your headstrong ways could help you live longer.

Researchers from the University of Rome La Sapienza and the University of California San Diego School of Medicine studied people living in the villages of Cilento in Southern Italy to find out their secrets to longevity. The area — nestled between mountains and the Mediterranean Sea — boasts a large population of people past the age of 90.

The key traits of these long-living Italians include: a strong work ethic, positivity, close ties with family and stubborn personalities.

"There have been a number of studies on very old adults, but they have mostly focused on genetics rather than their mental health or personalities," said Dr. Dilip V. Jeste, senior author of the study, senior associate dean for the Center of Healthy Aging and Distinguished Professor of Psychiatry and Neurosciences at UC San Diego School of Medicine.

"The group's love of their land is a common theme and gives them a purpose in life. Most of them are still working in their homes and on the land. They think, 'This is my life and I'm not going to give it up,'" added Anna Scelzo, first author of the study with the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse in Chiavarese, Italy.

The villages of Cilento in southern Italy boast a large population of people over the age of 90. GETTY IMAGES

And they aren't afraid of speaking their minds.

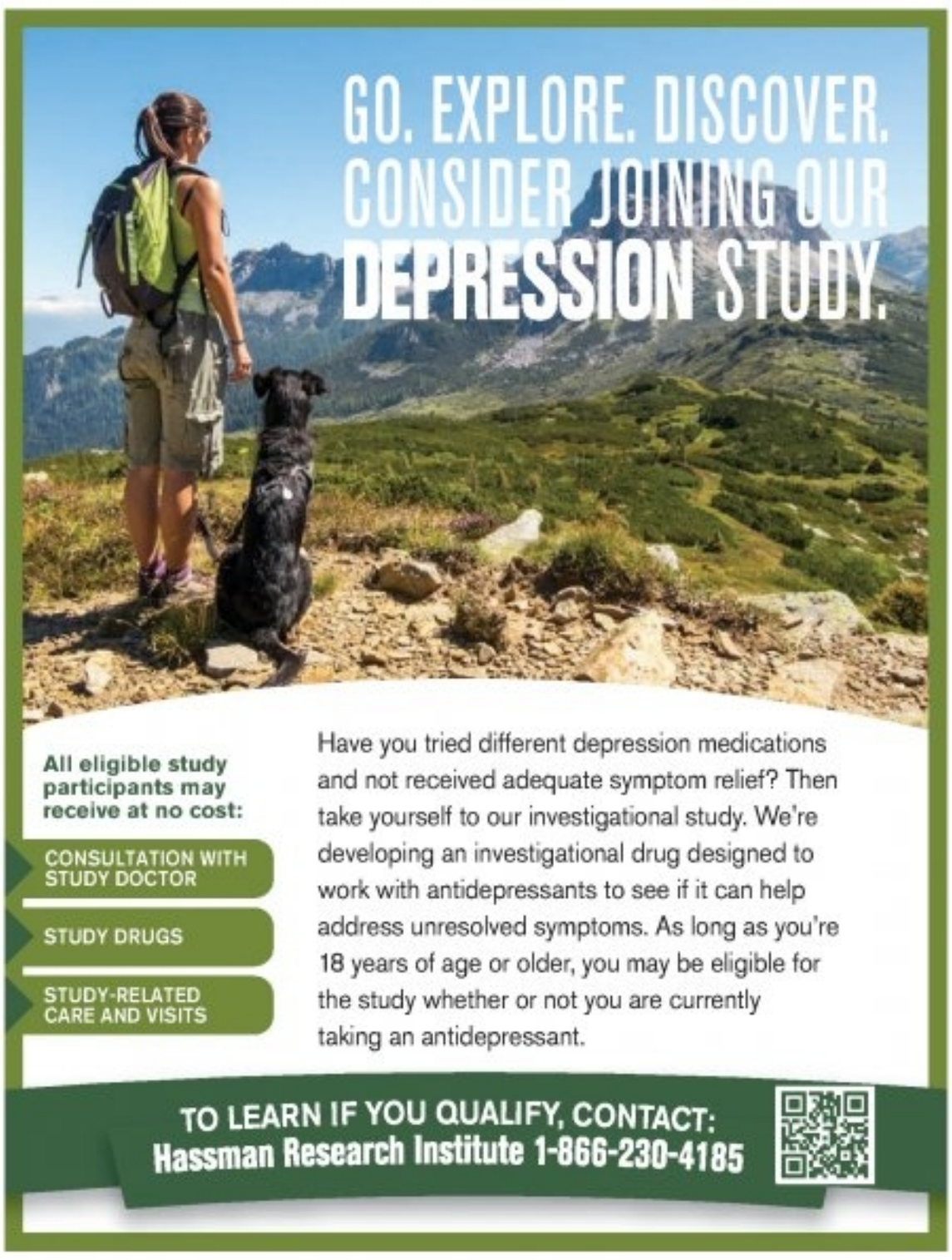
"We also found that this group tended to be domineering, stubborn and needed a sense of control, which can be a desirable trait as they are true to their convictions and care less about what others think," said Scelzo. "This tendency to control the environment suggests notable grit that is balanced by a need to adapt to changing circumstances."

Italians in general seem to live to an old age. Genetics do likely play a role, but many researchers believe their fresh diet and relaxed, stress-free lifestyle play a big part.

"Since the 1960s, there has been a big improvement in the Italian diet, with much more fresh fish and a wider variety of foods," Stefania Salmaso, director, National Centre for Epidemiology and Health Promotion in Rome told the BBC.

They do smoke more — 23 percent of adults, according to the British news network — but "fresh vegetables and fruit are commonly available and we use a lot of olive oil in cooking, and less animal fats than is found in British dishes."

So, it's clear: Stop stressing and start being opinionated — it'll help you live longer!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Alabama black-voter turnout helped propel Doug Jones to his victory

As the polls closed Tuesday night many people took to Twitter to show the stunning turnout of African-American voters. GETTY IMAGES

Alabama black-voter turnout may have been the contributing factor that helped Democrat candidate Doug Jones defeat Republican candidate Roy Moore for the Alabama Senate.

On Tuesday, Alabama made history when it elected its first Democratic senator in 25 years. When Jones takes office, the Republican majority will become 51-49.

According to CNN exit-polling data, 30 percent of Alabama voters for this election were African-American with 96 percent of them voting for Doug Jones. As for African- American women, 98 percent of black woman voters gave Jones their vote. The New York Times reports the total amount of black voters for this election was higher than when Barack Obama was elected in 2008 and reelected in 2012.

Exit-poll statistics show 63 percent of white women voted for Roy Moore despite the fact he has been battling sexual assault allegations. Several women have come forward to say Moore sexually assaulted them when they were teenagers and he was in his 30s.

According to The New York Times, African-American voters came out to support Jones because they don't agree with Moore's politics. African-American voters decided to vote against a man who is embattled by sexual-assault allegations and has said insensitive things about African-Americans and is backed by President Trump.

Grassroots organizations such as local NAACP chapters contributed to African-American voter turnout by mobilizing voters in black communities and urging them to get out and vote. Voting-rights groups and other organizations made sure residents were registered properly and were not turned away from polls due to missing pieces of identification. LENYON WHITAKER

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the word

KiKi is having a baby!

Good for you, Kiki. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Kirsten Dunst — beloved actress who played Marie Antoinette one time — is reportedly pregnant. Hooray!

Us Weekly reports that the 35-year-old actress is expecting her first child with fiancé Jesse Plemons, 29. The former "Fargo" co-star are also slated to tie the knot in Austin in the spring.The couple started dating in 2016, playing husband and wife on the FX hit series. News broke of their engagement, to everyone but this writer, in January 2017.

Dunst has been pretty chatty about having babies in the past, so this seems pretty standard. In June, she literally told Marie Claire UK that it was "time to have babies and chill." "I wasn't one of those 'I need a baby!' people until my goddaughter was born," she said. "I love her so much. That love is just like… you can't experience that unless you have a kid."

Well, Kiki, we're glad you will soon have a beautiful, screaming, pooping infant to call your own.

Salma opens up about Weinstein

Salma Hayek is opening up about her own experience with disgraced Hollywood producer Harvey Weinstein. And it is yet another painful account that showcases more of Weinstein's unforgivable, bad dude behavior.

In an op-ed for The New York Times, the 51-year-old actress writes about her experiences refusing Weinstein's advances while working with him during production for Miramax's "Frida." And frankly, the things she had to say no to — taking a shower with him, letting him watch her shower, allowing him to give her oral sex — is rage-inducing.

Even worse, she recalls a time when, sick of her rejections, he threatened her, saying "I will kill you, don't think I can't."

Hayek hopes that by speaking out she can shed light on why people wait so long to do so. "Men sexually harassed because they could. Women are talking today because, in this new era, we finally can."

Amen, sister.

Scary, scary stuff.

Meghan Markle's royal Christmas

It's a huge deal!

Do you have Meghan Markle and Prince Harry fatigue yet? Too bad! We're still invested. And here's even more reason to be: The 36-year-old recently engaged actress will be spending Christmas with her future in-laws. And that's apparently a big deal!

Markle will be the first royal fiancée to spend Christmas Day with the royal family, an exception to the traditional protocol. And it's all because Prince Harry, 33, is the queen's favorite.

"If Harry asks for something, the queen would say yes as she adores him," a family friend tells People.

Doesn't hurt that Queen Elizabeth's corgis can't get enough of the former "Suits" actress. "The corgis took to her straight away," Prince Harry said during the couple's engagement interview.

"I've spent the last 33 years being barked at — this one walks in, absolutely nothing." OMG, they're very cute and boring and I love it.

Happy early Christmas to my new favorite couple — you guys deserve it.

John Stamos will soon be a father figure

Talk about a full house!

Sorry, I was contractually obligated to do that. But really: John Stamos and his fiancée, Caitlin McHugh, are expecting their first child together.

Stamos, who will be a first-time father at the age of 54, and he gave a whole interview about it to People. And they, for whatever reason, put it on the cover.

Rebecca Romijn's ex-husband admits that he "always wanted to be a dad," but wasn't sure whether or not it was going to happen for him.

But now, he's excited to be as insufferable a father as any. "I'll be a fun dad," he promises. "I've been practicing for a long time." Hey, man, hope you don't think "Full House" counts.

"I've done every schtick you can do with a baby on TV… all the bits and jokes and diaper gags. I'll probably just do all that stuff."

Oh good, because raising a real life child is really all about the diaper gags.

Yet another bundle of perpetually screaming joy.

Back behind the wheel

Comedian-driver Ben Bailey on what it's like to drive the Cash Cab, New York's most in-demand taxi.

EVA KIS
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eva.kis@metro.us

"Cash Cab," the only game show you play in a taxi, is back — but it was nearly someone besides comedian Ben Bailey at the wheel.

"I actually heard, like most people, through the news that they were bringing it back," says Bailey, who's won three Daytime Emmys for hosting "Cash Cab." "And then there was all this craziness about was I gonna be hosting or not, and people were pretty vocal on social media about it and I got the offer."

As if there's another stand-up comic who's also a licensed New York City cab driver! (Turns out there is someone, "just one, though I don't know if he's still a licensed cabbie.")

Drama aside, Bailey is happy to be back at the wheel five years after "Cash Cab" was canceled after its original run from 2005-2012. The show returned this month on the Discovery Channel, airing Sundays at 10 p.m.

New this season are celebrity guests like Matthew Perry, Brooke Shields and Dave Foley, who get in the cab to help passengers out (though not so much Gilbert Gottfried, apparently.) The reaction from contestants, Bailey says, has been everything from getting very nervous to "rolling with it even though they were very excited."

Guests can also go on Facebook Live to ask for help, rather than yelling out the window to answer questions worth up to $500 until they arrive at their destination — or make three bad guesses, at which point they're out of the cab.

The Morristown, New Jersey, resident has also kept busy with other hosting gigs, a podcast called "Tall But True" (he's 6 feet, 6 inches) and his stand-up, including the special "Ben Bailey Live and Uncensored."

Cash Cab airs Sundays at 10 p.m. on the Discovery Channel. PROVIDED

In the time he's been away, he says New Yorkers have "mellowed a bit" but driving has gotten much harder. "I missed making the show," he says, "but I did not miss driving the taxi. You can't make left turns onto avenues a lot; there are more pedestrian walkways; there are so many new buildings and so many storefronts are turned over."

This is especially true in Lower Manhattan, where "Cash Cab" production company Lion Television is located. This is also the best tip for would-be contestants to get on the show, as it's where Bailey starts his day.

His other tip: Try to ride in a group. "The more brains you have working together, the better. A family will often do very well because the parents and kids know different areas."

But the prospect of a free ride with a cash reward at the end isn't enough for some. Bailey recalls "a handful of times" that people have either silently gotten out of the cab or declined to play.

"One woman said she was in the CIA," Bailey recalls. "Another guy said he was in the witness-protection program, and a few different times we got couples who weren't with the person they were supposed to be with."

When he's not driving the Cash Cab, Bailey gets around mostly via a car service, though he admits it takes "three times as long as the subway, which is still the best way to get around."

That's the kind of truth about New York life you don't get from a lot of shows. "Aside from 'Taxi Cab Confessions,'" says Bailey, "Cash Cab" is one of the most authentic representations of the city.

"That's part of what a lot of people say they love about the show — they get to experience New York again, almost like they get to go back."

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Annette Bening talks about her latest film ... and working with Kevin Spacey

One star's still shining; the other is tarnished by sexual-harassment allegations.

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gregory.wakeman@metro.us

Bening as Gloria Grahame in "Film Stars." SONY PICTURES CLASSICS

Spacey and Bening, a mismatched couple in "American Beauty" DREAMWORKS

Nearly 20 years after sharing the big screen in Academy Award-winning "American Beauty," Annette Bening is eager to talk about her latest flick — "Film Stars Don't Die in Liverpool" — but has been beleaguered with questions about her former co-star.

We're eager to see Oscar-bait "Film Stars," but as that film's director, Paul McGuigan, is known for showing scenes of physical and verbal abuse, we couldn't help but ask those questions ourselves, after learning of the serious accusations against Spacey.

So how did she feel upon learning the news?

"Shocked," says Bening. "I considered him a colleague. We had an extremely respectful, mutually respectful relationship. It is just very, very upsetting, everything that has happened in relation to him. I feel terrible about it."

Bening's remarks follow on from those of Allison Janney, who also starred opposite Spacey in "American Beauty," and who told Metro that she was left "devastated" by the news.

"I feel just devastated that this is Kevin's story now," she told us. "That this is what he was a part of. And that he abused his position as an actor. A lot of young kids would look up to him thinking he could do something for them. It's a really sad, and really terrible thing to abuse your power like that. It's incredibly disappointing."

We're not sure this is the last we'll hear about Spacey and his alleged abuses of power, but we're certain this isn't the last we'll hear about Bening's performance in "Film Stars Don't Die in Liverpool," which will be out in limited release Dec. 29.

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1A06 Damon Mears household items; **1A13D Gwendolyn M Martin** household good; **1A29 Cinquetta Moore** washer and dryer and clothes; **1A47 Elizabeth Mcnair** Party Favors, boxes and bins; **2A120 Clayton J Williams** household goods; **2A180 Gregory Brown** Refrigerator, dining set, living room set, stove, dish washer; **2A255 Cheronn Newkirk** household items; **2A88 Jean Hurling** household goods; **2A92 Kenyada Wimberly** 2 bedroom sets, living room set; **2B29 Jennifer Graham** Household Items; **2B36 Marseilbaise Davis** Boxes; **2B51 Rochelle Amos-Williamson** household items; **2B52 Aaron McLeod** household goods; **2C50 Angel Vargas** Dresser, chest, bed and bins with clothes; **2D135 Julie Reid** one bedroom apartment fully furnished, 25 bins, fridge, 10 boxes; **2D145 Venus Smith** Totes and bags; **2D164 Patrice Wright** Personal Items; **2D208 Matthew Robertson** Household goods; **2D21 Jacqueline Barr** household goods; **2D235 Lakia Myers** household items; **2D246 Gregory Porterfield** Sofa Loveseat; **2D269 Deborah Metz** household goods; **2D28 Kayode Olowu** Clothing & Books; **2D72 Ebony McCants** 3 tvs and stands air conditioner fridge microwave couch and love seat bags of clothes; **2D76 Tanika McRae** Clothes and Home Goods; **2E11 Joshua L Nagel** Stuff; **2E31 Cheryl Adams** household goods; **2L07 Amadou Sy Dorm** room items; **3A01 Jonathan West** household items; **3A109 Gary Chisom** Household Goods; **3A142 Dorothy J Williams** household goods; **3A1788 Donna Giddings** bedroom, living room and dinning room; **3A211 Keith Harrison** TV, dresser, mattress, box spring, night stand, table, AC unit; **3A213 Marquita Duncan** Household Goods; **3A230 Kenneth Mccoy** household goods; **3A263 Debra Welch** 2 beds, couch and 2 TV's; **3C11 Shawn Burgess** house hold; **3C18 Rasheeda J Larke** Bed set, night stand and boxes 2 tv's and household items; **3E09 Rochelle Moore** mattress box spring and containers; **3E53 Carina Smith** 20 storage totes & Seasonal Household Items; **3E74 Lonnie Cameron** barrels of clothes and tv; **3L46 Adgorine Albury** Totes, and bags; **4A103 Mykia Rush** bunk bed table bed bench; **4A124 Kim Johnson** school items, household items; **4A136 Jacquie Wilson** 3 beds, piano, boxes, set of drums; **4A157 Monique Pearl Knox** household goods; **4A158 Aliya Mumin** household items; **4A223 Denisha** Addison household items; **4A224 Victor Oberton** Furniture; **4A33 Dionne Johnson** household goods and furniture; **4A36 Keisha Mcleod** queen and full bed, 2 tv's containers; **4B18 Jennifer Ferrell** household goods; **4C15 Nicholas Stamps** household items; **4E09 Douglass Thorpe** Personal Items; **4E125 Yvonne Trice** household goods; **4E142 Belinda Powell** Household Goods; **4L20 Marie Flood** Totes & Boxes; **4L24 Mildred Sigler** Household Goods

Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the time of sale. All goods are sold as is and must be removed at the time of purchase. Extra Space Storage reserves the right to bid. Sale is subject to adjournment.

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B104 William De Leon Jr. (Shelving Units), C116 Latoefah E. Talbert (House Goods), C1-09C Shaneice Syreeta Johnson (Bed, Tv, Boxes), C161C Regine Joseph (Household Items), C184C Darryl K. Richardson (Church Equipment), C194C Darryl K. Richardson (Church Equipment), C197C Darryl K. Richardson (Church Equipment), C203C Marrietta Costella Spraggans (Household Items), C219C Sarah A. Martino (Household), D107 Chester J. Franczyk 3rd (Household Items), D131 Brittany Patricia Cohen (Furniture), D132CV Douglas Burnett (Sofas & Chairs), D133 Chester J. Franczyk 3rd (Household Items), D135 Andre C. Mack (Building Materials), F125 Rita Rell Alejo (Household Furniture), G116 Chester J. Franczyk 3rd (Household Items).

Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the time of sale. All goods are sold as is and must be removed at the time of purchase. Extra Space Storage reserves the right to bid. Sale is subject to adjournment.

Local gifts for the *fashionista* in your life

Christmas is nearly here, and if you are still stuck on what to buy your favorite fashionista, look no further than Philly's independent retailers. From Center City to South Philly, the city's full of finds that will make any style-savvy person simply glow with holiday cheer. From shoes to watches to jewelry, we put together a few ideas to get your shopping started. **JENNIFER LOGUE**

Analog Watch Co.

1737 E. Passyunk Ave
analogwatchco.com

Our pick:
Makore & Red Sanders Watch and the Silver & Maple Watch with hour markings, Price: $150 each

These sleek and gender-neutral watches are designed and made right on East Passyunk. Every time you buy a watch, a tree is planted. With their minimalist design, these wood-crafted watches can easily transition from a long day at the office making deals happen to a night on the town celebrating *la dolce vita*.

Steel Pony

758 S. 4th St.
steelpony.com

Our pick:
Healing crystal necklaces, $35 each

What on earth do you buy your fashion-obsessed friend with bohemian style? A little extra sparkle, of course! Steel Pony is a treasure trove for bohemian-chic fashion, carrying everything from one-of-a-kind yoga mat carrying cases to handmade hipster harem pants (made from recycled materials, of course). We absolutely love the healing-crystal necklaces, however. At only $35 each, they're a bargain and will help keep your favorite fashionista centered in the new year.

Bus Stop Boutique

727 S. 4th St.
busstopboutique.com

Our pick:
Bus Stop x Afar Chelsea Boots, Price: $299

Elena Brennan has had Bus Stop Boutique for a while now but in the past two years, she's started designing her own footwear. Inspired by Brennan's travels, the Bus Stop x Afar Chelsea Boots are as comfortable as an oxford. Vegan options are also available. They also come in a rainbow of colors. The most difficult thing about these beauties is not buying all of them.

Miss Demeanor

1729 E. Passyunk Ave.
missdemeanor.com

Our pick:
Flame Block Printed small backpack, Price: $120

This backpack was handmade by Julia Canright, and while it's small, it's super-practical, made with a heavy-duty natural cotton canvas along with soft (but sturdy) adjustable leather straps in brown or black. The large inner pocket is perfect for storing your phone and wallet. The front flap is closed with nickel-plated buckles on the sides and front for maximum closure.

IN ASSOCIATION WITH CHRISTMAS VILLAGE IN PHILADELPHIA

For the *'Star Wars'* fans

Bring the galaxy far, far away into your home with these gifts.

EVA KIS

ASOS x "Star Wars" galaxy dress

Those who prefer casual cosplay will love Asos' collaboration with Disney featuring pieces like this Rey-inspired galaxy-printed dress with long front slits and metallic details. *$95, asos.com*

Forces of Destiny girls' T-shirt

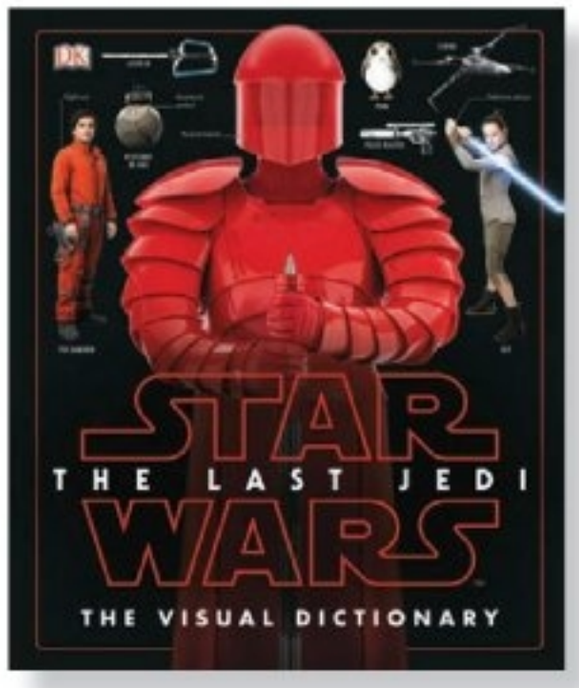
Now that "Star Wars" is a Disney property, we're getting tons more kids merchandise. Target's entire line of "Star Wars" clothes for girls is darling, especially the ones celebrating the franchise's growing ranks of female characters. *$9.99, target.com*

Death Star ice molds

Demolish your own version of the Death Star — albeit much more slowly — with these spherical ice molds. *$12.99, superheroden.com*

Propel Star Wars TIE Advanced X1 Quadcopter

Looking for some starship vs. starship action that's more realistic than a video game? These durable drones look just like a TIE figher, X-wing or speeder bike, capable of laser combat with a worldwide leaderboard and stunts like barrel rolls. *$129.99, bhphotovideo.com*



"The Last Jedi" Visual Dictionary

Want to really go deeper into the latest "Star Wars" film? DK Publishing's Visual Dictionaries are a treasure trove of insights into the secrets of movie magic, how characters shape their costumes and tons more. *$22.99, dk.com*

Kane Darth Vader backpack

State Bags' classic lines and clean designs turn Darth Vader, stormtroopers and even C-3PO into stylish backpacks for all ages (this one fits a 13-inch laptop plus all your gear). For each purchase, State also donates a backpack full of school supplies to a child in need here in the U.S. *$95, statebags.com*

The Isle Awakens

Step inside "Star Wars" sets on Brendan Vacations' 11-day self-guided tour of Ireland, where you'll visit sites like Luke Skywalker's private island (better known as Skellig Michael) and Malin Head, where the Millennium Falcon was built. Book by Jan. 11 and get $200 off airfare. *$1,190 per person, brendanvacations.com*

URBAN ELEGANCE

When you get home, relax with the new CITY barware collection from Orrefors.
The CITY collection consists of crystal glass barware and stainless steel accessories that embodies modern Scandanavian design. Inspired by city lights, the cuts on the surface create a bold and masculine, yet elegant and refined feeling.

CITY barware collection can be found at Bloomingdales, other fine retailers and www.orrefors.us

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IN ASSOCIATION WITH CHRISTMAS VILLAGE IN PHILADELPHIA

8 Host gifts that will make you the *best guest*

You, very important reader, surely have a whole bundle of holiday parties to attend. While bringing booze is pretty standard for any well-socialized guest, why not add in a little something extra this season? Here are eight ideas for thoughtful, outside-the-box gifts that will impress any host — and are sure to get you invited back. **KATE MOONEY**

Williams-Sonoma hot chocolate

This 12-ounce tin of "double dark" hot chocolate will make any host feel cozy and joyful.
$15.95, Williams-sonoma.com

Zum lavender-lemon mist

An easy, good-smelling essential-oil blend can be used as a body or face mister, air freshener or linen spray. This 4-ounch Zum lavender-lemon mist will do the trick.
$9.95, target.com

continued on page 24

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www.craftsports.us

IN ASSOCIATION WITH CHRISTMAS VILLAGE IN PHILADELPHIA

continued from page 22

Christmas cactus

This festive plant with Christmas-red blossoms will give life to any holiday party. Plus, it will be a bright spot amid the host's morning-after party clean-up. ***$3.98, Lowes.com.***

Five-flavor bitters bar set

Set your host up for a 2018 filled with more flavorful concoctions, with this selection of five 1.7-ounce bottles of flavored bitters (smoked chili, aromatic, citrus, orange, ginger). ***$34.95, hellacocktail.com***

Rose glass tumbler

Vintage rose-colored tumblers add a little class to any beverage. ***$16, comingsoonnewyork.com***

A dozen blooming tea roses

What's better than a bouquet of roses? Why, a bouquet of blooming tea roses. When each bundle of dried tea leaves steeps in hot water, it blooms into an edible flower. Post-magic trick, it's a warm bev for your host to enjoy any blustery winter day.
$21.95, Amazon.com.

Old Hollywood Round Circles Coasters

This four pack of throwback ceramic coasters will jazz up any coffee table.
$21.99, Wayfair.com

P.F. Candle Co, No. 5: spruce

Who doesn't love a fresh spruce-scented candle over the holidays? This hand-poured soy candle comes in an amber jar that— BONUS – you can re-use once the candle burns out.
$17, pfcandleco.com

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Philadelphia's top musicians compete for cash prizes at PHL Live Centerstage

Judges, hosts and PHL Live participants pose at the Pop Finals.
ALL PHOTOS PROVIDED

things to do

Chill Moody has been involved with PHL Live since the beginning.

Singer Laurin Talese will perform at the award show.

Councilman David Oh tells us how it all began.

JENNIFER LOGUE
@jenniferlogue
jennifer.logue@metro.us

On Thursday night, Councilman David Oh presents his fourth annual PHL Live Centerstage awards show at The Trocadero. The event concludes a multiphase, citywide music competition in which local artists are given the opportunity to win cash prizes, recording time and more.

"When I was running for office apart of what I talked about was the importance of the creative innovative economy," says Oh. "With Philly's history as a music city and the fact that music is an equal opportunity employer [rich, poor, college degree, no college degree], if we could provide the opportunity for people who have been struggling to make it, we want to help them."

His inspiration for PHL Live came from the Philadelphia Asian American Film Festival.

"I was part of the [Philadelphia] Asian American Film Festival when it was created," he says. "I thought we could do it like a film festival. We have a website, you submit your music for free, have judges to select the artists and then of the artists selected, they would perform live."

But without funding, he wasn't too sure how everything would come together until local music industry leaders heard about the initiative and wanted to get involved.

"Chill Moody and GoGo Morrow got interested. Then Carvin Haggins got involved. Then Joanna Pang (who owns the Trocadero) stopped by and said she wanted to be a venue," he recalls.

The competition accepted online submissions from artists until Sept. 30 of this year. Judges in each of the 11 categories picked their favorite acts to advance to the live performance phase of the competition at venues like Settlement Music School, Hard Rock Cafe, Kung Fu Necktie, Reformation Lutheran Church, Voltage Lounge, Clef Club of Jazz, Milkboy, William Street Common and World Cafe Live.

Categories include R&B, World, Classical, DJ/EDM, Country/Folk, Hip Hop, Jazz, Gospel and Rock and there's an additional prize category for People's Choice, which is decided by an online vote. The winner in each category gets a cash prize of $1,000. All finalists receive a City Council mini-citation, will be featured on the PHL Live website as a finalist and will also have their performances broadcast by iradiophilly.

At the award show, the winners will be announced and the evening will also feature performances from Chill Moody, Laurin Talese, American Dinosaur and The Phonies. The event will be hosted by Frank Knuckles (formerly of The Roots) and Dezzie of Praise 107.9.

For more information, visit: phllive.org.

If you go

PHL Live Centerstage Awards Show
Thursday, Dec. 14
Doors: 7 p.m., Show: 8 p.m.
The Trocadero
1003 Arch St.
thetroc.com

American Dinosaur will also perform at the award show.

Councilman David Oh tells us about how he got inspiried to start PHL Live Centerstage.

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HOLIDAYS

Holidelic

Multi-disciplinary artist Everett Bradley directs and produces this flashy and funky soul show that invigorates the holidays with a splash of Motown flair. Performers dazzle with wigs and eccentric ensembles in abundance.
Dec. 15, 9 p.m.
World Café Live
3025 Walnut St.,
holidelic.com, $20

Deck the Avenue: Shopping Saturday

The avenue's "Deck the Avenue" month of special events continues with "Shopping Saturday," headed by a Holiday Headquarters with a $10 crafting workshop, free gift wrapping for any item purchased at an avenue shop, free storytelling and a variety of specials at local stores. A brass band and carolers will perform.
Dec. 16, 11 a.m.
East Passyunk Avenue
1726 East Passyunk Avenue
Pay as you go

Brunch with Santa

Indulge in chicken and waffles or a breakfast burrito before nestling up with Santa for a free photo. Kids can order pancakes for just $5, and parents can order a Bloody Mary for, similarly, just $5.
Dec. 17, 11 a.m.
Taproom on 19th
2400 S. 19th St.
taproomon19th.com
Pay as you go

JESSICA GRIFFIN

The Glorious Sound of Christmas

The charming conductor Bramwell Tovey leads the Philadelphia Orchestra in its annual holiday program, swarming the air with the sounds of holiday classics—with original arrangements and new spins. It's a feel-good concert to strip the Scrooge from the grumpiest of spirits.
Through Dec. 17
Verizon Hall, 300 S. Broad St.
philorch.org, $10

Barnes Pop-Up Holiday Market

A one-of-a-kind collection of jewelry, clothing and art pieces, The Barnes' second-annual pop-up holiday market is a must for anyone looking to buy friends or family a gift sure to not be duplicated. Also around the market: winter spirits and complimentary desserts from Whole Foods; to boot, get free admission to the Kiefer Rodin exhibit.
Dec. 16, 5 p.m.
The Barnes Foundation
2025 Benjamin Franklin Parkway
barnesfoundation.org
Pay as you go

Photos with Santa

Families can meet Santa on Saturday or Sunday at a Philadelphia Zoo-hosted breakfast buffet at the Rare Animal Conservation Center. Of course, patrons are encouraged to explore the wonders of the zoo after getting their fill of grub and holiday gaiety.
Through Dec. 17,
11 a.m.
Philadelphia Zoo
3400 W. Girard Ave.
philadelphiazoo.org, $5

Holiday Princess Concert and Singalong

In "A Dream is a Wish," Philadelphia Theatre Company combines princesses from movie musicals and TV shows for a one-time-only singalong show. Kids will be able to grab photos with the princesses at a meet-and-greet reception after—with complimentary cookies and apple cider.
Dec. 17, 3:15 p.m.
Suzanne Roberts Theatre

Charity Weekend at Christmas Village

The Make-A-Wish Foundation teams with Whole Foods and the Christmas Village to raise money for Make-A-Wish, which supports children with life-threatening medical conditions. Make-A-Wish curates a special set of on-stage performers between noon and 5 p.m. on Sunday, while Santa will be making the rounds until 7 p.m. both days.
Dec. 16 through Dec. 17,
11 a.m., Christmas Village
1500 Arch St., Pay as you go

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480 S. Broad St.
philadelphiatheatre
company.org, $35

MUSIC

Tom Hamilton

Hamilton performs an acoustic set with psychedelic style. He may be best recognized as lead singer of American Babies, an electronica-improv-rock band that's performed at South By Southwest and released three LPs.
Dec. 14, 7 p.m.
World Café Live
3025 Walnut St.
worldcafelive.com, $15

Dan Orlando

Talented pianist and singer Dan Orlando puts on this intimate set at Milkboy, performing high-energy rock with sweeping melodies. Orlando is a Philly native who takes inspiration from everyone from Mozart to Freddie Mercury.
Dec. 15, 8:30 p.m.
Milkboy Philadelphia
1100 Chestnut St.
milkboyphilly.com
$10

Eryn Woods

Though a semi-finalist from TV competition "Gospel Dream," don't let the background deceive: Woods is through-and-through pop, with a dash of punk. Justina Valentine will perform as a supporting act.
Dec. 15, 9 p.m.
Underground Arts at the Wolf Building
1200 Callowhill St.
undergroundarts.org
$15

GayBINGO! White Christmas

The roaming "Bingo Verifying Divas" tackle a theme of the popular holiday film "White Christmas" for this month's GayBINGO! festivities—as always, including musical numbers and prizes. Guests are encouraged to bring unwrapped items for a toy drive, supporting kids living with HIV.
Dec. 16, 8 p.m.
The Gershman Y
401 S. Broad St.
aidsfundphilly.org
$25

THEATER

PROVIDED

Get Pegged: Virgil Gadson & Martha Stuckey

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fringearts.com, $5

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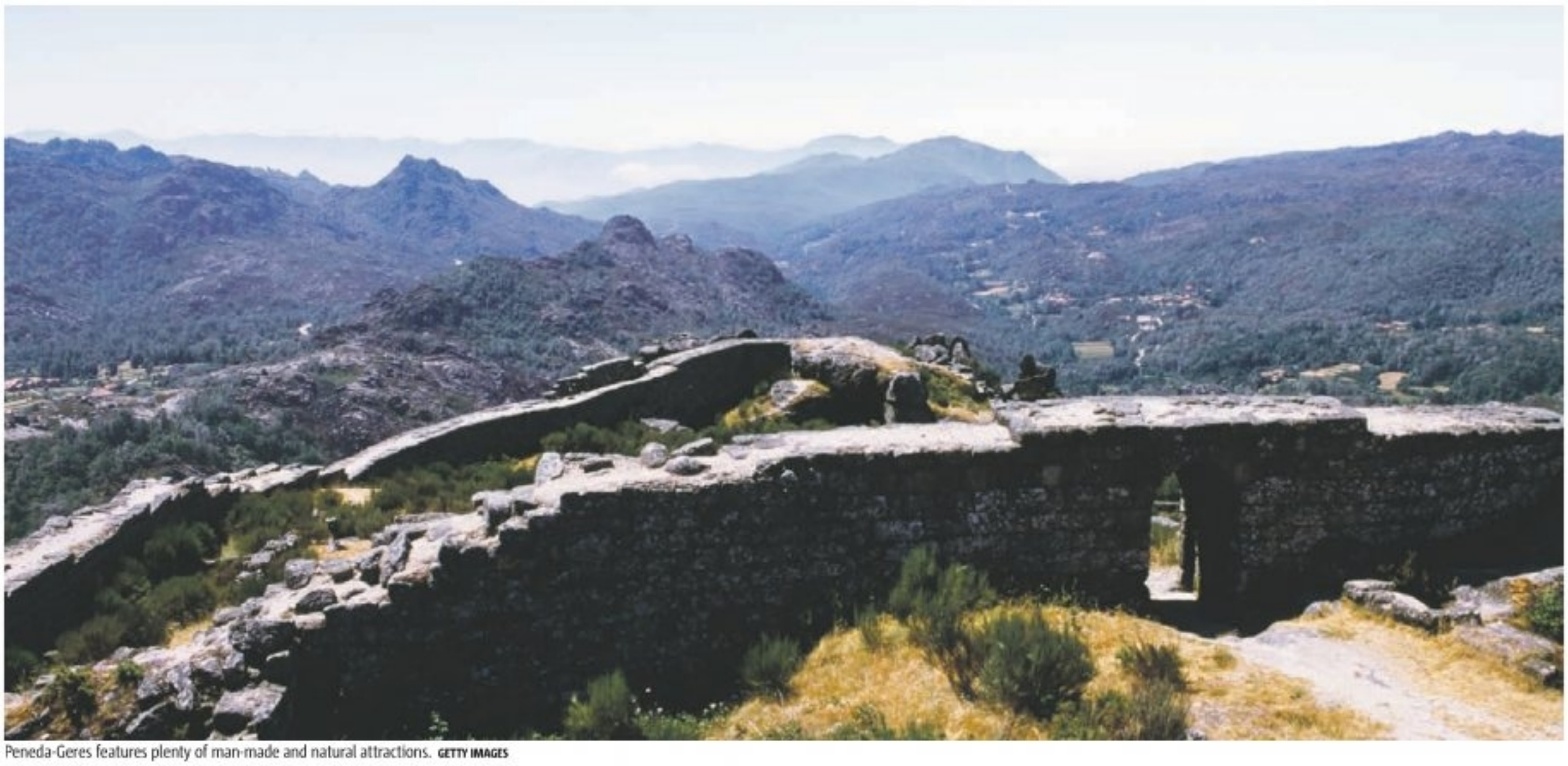

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Portugal's Peneda-Geres National Park is an underexplored destination unique in every way.

Fodor's Travel

Most visitors to Portugal make a beeline for the beaches or head straight to the hipped up cities of Lisbon and Porto. But while this pocket-sized country on the Iberian peninsula seems to be on every traveler's European must-go list right now, one of its most astonishing attractions remains refreshingly under-the-radar.

Forget the golden sands and blue skies of the Algarve, the Alentejo, or the Lisbon Coast — at Parque Nacional Peneda-Gerês, the terrain is rocky, rugged and mountainous. The biodiversity is incredible, with close to 250 types of vertebrate joining endemic species such as the gold-striped salamander and endangered Iberian wolf in making this deeply forested region their home.

The park is rich in historical and cultural heritage, from megalithic necropolis and traces of Romanization, to castles, granaries, ovens, mills, dams and mountain villages, much of it well-preserved.

Adventurous travelers will find endless opportunity for high-adrenaline pursuits such as canyoning and caving, while hikers and runners can take trails that cut through crashing waterfalls and cooling natural pools, and wildlife lovers can marvel at the rugged grey mountains rising from green, green landscapes sprinkled with colorful wildflowers such as the Gerês lily, a blue-violet flower endemic to the park.

Golden eagles soar through skies that may be a scorchingly clear blue in summer, or a seething mass of grey clouds from October through May (all that exuberant vegetation is the result of regular thunderous downpours).

While visitors are unlikely to have any up-close-and-personal encounters with the wolves that roam the park, they are almost certain to encounter long-horned cattle wandering through the street, and catch a glimpse of garrano ponies–small wild horses that have free run of the land.

Ancient churches and other religious buildings dot the landscape, while the dramatic medieval bridge over the sparkling river Rabagão is said to have been built by the Devil himself (it's commonly known as Ponto de Diablo) to help a bandit escape his pursuers.

Accommodation options at the park range from several well-equipped campsites, a youth hostel, and village inn to a relatively plush spa hotel on the edge of the park at Vieira do Minho. Many tour operators run trips here, and it can be visited as a side trip from Porto or Braga.

Temple aims to end inconsistent season with rare bowl win

Temple will face FIU in the Bad Boy Mowers Gasparilla Bowl next week.

JON MARKS
@MetroPhilly
sports@metro.us

Temple's 2017 season will wrap up when things kick off in the Gasparilla Bowl, on December 21 at 8 p.m. GETTY IMAGES

Forget for a moment the name, because no kid ever grew up dreaming of playing in the Bad Boy Mowers Gasparilla Bowl—whatever that is — in St. Petersburg.

Look at the big picture instead.

For the seniors it's one final chance to wear that cherry-and-white uniform; in this case an opportunity for the most successful class in Temple history to add a bowl game victory to its resume — kicking off at 8 p.m. on ESPN the night of Dec. 21.

For the rest it's an extra two-plus weeks invaluable practice time. They can now pick up where they left off winning 43-22 at Tulsa Nov. 25, which could not only pay dividends when they take on 8-4 Florida International of Conference USA, but next season.

And for first year coach Geoff Collins and his staff it's an opportunity to continue to build the culture that's had some rough spots since he replaced popular Matt Rhule.

Back in the post-season again, despite going just 6-6, Collins' Owls can accomplish something Rhule never did. Considering he's been to 12 consecutive bowl games as an assistant he definitely knows the drill.

"He's been to the past 12, so he knows how to handle it," senior offensive lineman Leon Johnson said. "We just follow his lead. In 2015 when we played Toledo we were more happy to be there than compete. In 2016 we wanted to compete, but just came up short. So this should be the one."

While the Panthers are a relative unknown to most, their coach certainly isn't. Butch Davis has been around more than a few blocks, having spent six years at Miami and four at North Carolina, in addition to serving as Jimmy Johnson's defensive coordinator on the Super Bowl winning Cowboys — and getting the lowly Cleveland Browns to the playoffs during his second of his four seasons at the helm. But that and the 67-year-old Davis' 5-2 record in bowl games is for Collins to worry about.

"For me it definitely means the world to play in one more bowl game in my senior year," defensive end Sharif Finch, who has 7.5 sacks and 14.5 tackles for losses, said. "We've been in a couple the last few years, but weren't able to win. Being a part of the winningest class in school history and having the opportunity to do that this time and leave it as part of my legacy would be special. As seniors we need to make sure the younger guys know it's a business trip and make sure we come back with the Gasparilla trophy."

For Nutile, who replaced injured but struggling Logan Marchi at mid-season and guided the Owls to a 3-1 finish that made them bowl eligible, it's the culmination of a memorable season.

"We've had a championship mindset the last 4-5 weeks to make sure these seniors go out right," the redshirt junior from Wayne, NJ said. "To be able to play one more with those guys really exciting. I'm so proud of how we rallied round each other. So we don't want to take our foot off the gas pedal. But Florida International is a great team, with a great coach. They'll be ready to play."

Now there's only one thing left. So forget the name. To these Temple Owls the Bad Boy Mowers Gasparilla Bowl means everything.

They don't plan to come home without winning it.

And just like that, Flyers swap big slump for win streak

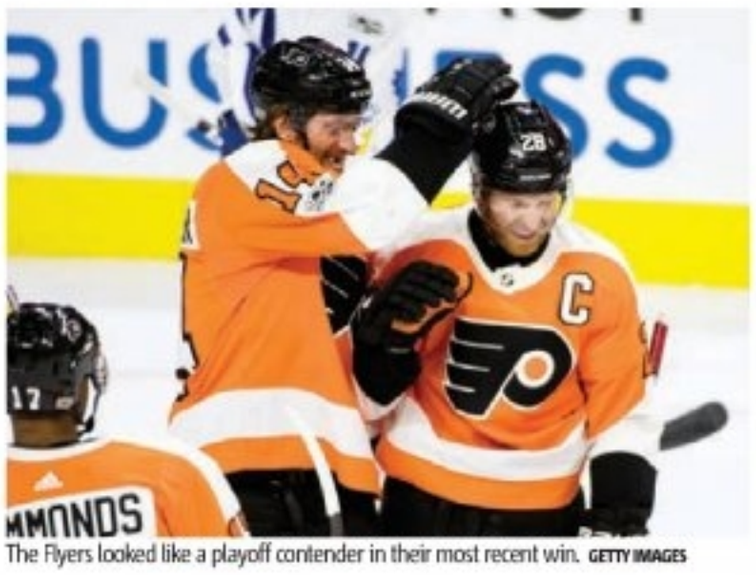
Claude Giroux stood in front of a gaggle of reporters inside the locker room after the Flyers' 4-2 win over the Maple Leafs on Tuesday downright giddy while answering questions about the team's four-game winning streak, his no-look, between the legs pass that led to the go-ahead goal late in the third period and the offensive breakout season from Sean Couturier.

It was a stark contrast from the last time he faced the media in Philadelphia. On December 2, following a listless 3-0 loss at home to the Bruins that extended the Flyers' winless skid to 10, a clearly-frustrated Giroux dealt with calls by fans and the media to fire coach Dave Hakstol and what was wrong with the team.

Apparently, the cure to all the Flyers ills was a challenging three-game road trip to Western Canada.

"We were playing some good hockey, and I think our identity kind of changed a little bit with that road trip," Giroux said of the three wins over Calgary, Edmonton and Vancouver. "We're excited right now in the room. … We gotta keep building on this."

Playing a couple thousand miles away as well as a couple of lineup and system changes may have saved the season.


The Flyers looked like a playoff contender in their most recent win. GETTY IMAGES

In the first game against Calgary, Hakstol moved Jakub Voracek off the first line to play with Valtteri Filppula and Michael Raffl and bumped Wayne Simmonds from the second line to the first with Giroux and Couturier. The moves paid off handsomely as Raffl, who had just one goal all season, scored the game-winning goal in each game, while Simmonds, who had scored just once in 18 games, also found the back of the net in each contest.

Hakstol also instructed players to dump the puck into the zone instead of trying to make the fancy pass to get over the blue line. Then, he had one player enter the offensive zone to forecheck while the remaining players clogged the neutral zone to try and creat turnovers.

The new style is not an exciting brand of hockey, but it has worked so far and been a key component to the turnaround.

"The difference has been that we've taken advantage of our good play," Hakstol said. "Guys have just kept their foot on the gas and found ways to win games."

The Flyers have won four straight in regulation for the first time in nearly four years. They sit just four points out of a wild card berth.

"We're working hard and we haven't stopped working hard – even through that tough stretch of games," said Travis Konecney. "Now, it is finally paying off for us." ERIC GOLDSTEIN

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The good, the bad and the ugly for Eagles' Foles

Is Nick Foles capable of leading the Eagles to a Super Bowl?

EVAN MACY
@evan_macy
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The Eagles are 11-2, and need to win two of three games against the Giants, Raiders and Cowboys to clinch homefield throughout the NFC playoffs. If reading this article, you already know the team will have a new quarterback for its 14th game — back up Nick Foles.

For much more Eagles coverage, visit **metro.us**

GOOD

Remember when he went for 27-2?

Everyone knows these stats. In 2013 Foles —drafted by the Eagles a year earlier — took over the Chip Kelly offense and not only led Philly to it's most recent playoff berth (a first round exit in a loss to New Orleans) but he also posted a then record touchdown to interception ration of 27-2.

"When I looked at what Nick has done in this league, to throw seven touchdowns in a game, to throw 27 touchdowns and two interceptions in the course of a year, that's pretty freakish," Eagles offensive coordinator and longtime NFL backup quarterback Frank Reich said. "Good for us that we have a backup quarterback that's done that. I mean, that's crazy."

Foles was helped by a dynamic offense, boasting DeSean Jackson and LeSean McCoy, along with the best offensive line in the NFL that year.

Even still, his string of success came in the toughest league in the toughest position in sports. It still deserves praise.

Nick Foles has started for three NFL teams. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

A veteran presence

Foles, 28, bopped around to two other franchises after the Eagles moved on from him in 2015, playing for the Rams and the Chiefs. He has had enough reps in the NFL to qualify as a wily veteran and has a winning record in the NFL, 20-16, which is no easy task.

In his career Foles has 56 touchdowns and 27 interceptions, also an impressive ratio. His completion percentage — a hair over 60 percent is average.

Bad

He's not Carson Wentz

Filling in for Wentz will be a tall task. After all, prior to his injury — and throwing his Eagles' record 33rd touchdown pass — he was a leading MVP candidate. There is no way Foles can act with the same agility and creativity as Wentz did. The spectacular highlight plays will look a lot differently for Foles. Sure, he does have Alshon Jeffery, Zach Ertz and a bevy of other potent weapons at his disposal, but there will be a different feel behind center. The magic has been replaced by a slightly better than average back up.

Was 2013 an aberration?

If you take away Foles' incredible 2013 accolades, his career touchdown to interception ratio falls to 29 to 25. He's never started more than 11 games in a season and is a back up in the NFL for a reason. If Foles was a one-trick pony, he will show his true colors in the playoffs with the Eagles.

UGLY

Don't forget about 2015

Foles says he mulled retirement after a disastrous 2015 season with the then St. Louis Rams. That year he did not throw a touchdown pass in his last five games and had a quarterback rating of a mere 69.0.

"I sat there and talked with my wife," Foles said. "You go through a lot of emotions. Changing teams, being traded, going there, going through that year, and once I was a free agent, we just sort of sat there and said, 'Hey what do we want to do?' It was the first time I had been a free agent in my career and it was the first time I had to make a decision because I was drafted and traded. I was leaning toward not playing and stepping back."

Andy Reid came to the rescue, talking Foles into playing as a back up with the Chiefs last year.

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AZP Capital, LLC, 9393 North 90th Street, Suite 102-560 Scottsdale, AZ 85258
(Plaintiff)
v.
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All Known and Unknown Heirs, Personal Representatives and Devisees of Rodney Saunders
418 Fitzgerald Street, Philadelphia, PA 19148
(Defendant(s))

Docket #: 1709025113
Action in Mortgage Foreclosure
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Lleva esta demanda a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no tiene abogado o si no tiene el dinero suficiente de pagar tal servicio, vaya en persona o llame por telefono a la oficina cuya direccion se encuentra escrita abajo para averiguar donde se puede conseguir asistencia legal.

Lawyer Referral and Information Service (Asociacion de Licenciados Servicio de Referencia e Informacion Legal)
Lawyer Referral and Information Service, One Reading Center, Philadelphia, PA 19107
215-238-1701

Petition for Individual Adult Name Change and Change Race/Nationality

October term, 2017, No. 3756

And now, this 14 day of November 2017, on motion of the Petitioner Musayyeb Ali Alhaqq, it is ORDERED and DECREED that the within Petition for Change of Name and Race/Nationality be heard on the 5th day of January 2018, in Courtroom 285, City Hall, PA at 9:30am.

All persons interested may appear and show cause, if any they have, why the prayer of the said petition should not be granted.

ENTERTAINMENT

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The cleaning company will provide services according to the specifications set forth by the schools. The Charters' Board of Education reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all proposals or to accept the proposal that it finds, in its sole discretion, to be in the best interest of the schools.

A mandatory walkthrough meeting is scheduled for Friday, January 5th at 10:00 AM beginning at 1301 Belmont Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19104. Site visit includes 4030 Brown St; 907 North 41st St; and 1301 Belmont Ave. Please RSVP for this site visit by Thursday, January 4th at 5:00pm. This walkthrough is required in order to be considered for contract award.

Proposals must be submitted in a sealed envelope and addressed and clearly marked as follows:

Belmont Charter School
Cleaning and Janitorial Services Proposal
Attn: Jason Glass
4030 Brown St.
Philadelphia, PA 19104

jason.glass@belmontcharternetwork.org

Request RFP and RSVP for site visit walkthrough to jason.glass@belmontcharternetwork.org

All proposals due no later than January 19, 2018 by 12pm

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- Must bring a **Valid State ID** (school ID not permitted)
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- Must provide OIC with **three written references** at orientation (non-family members)
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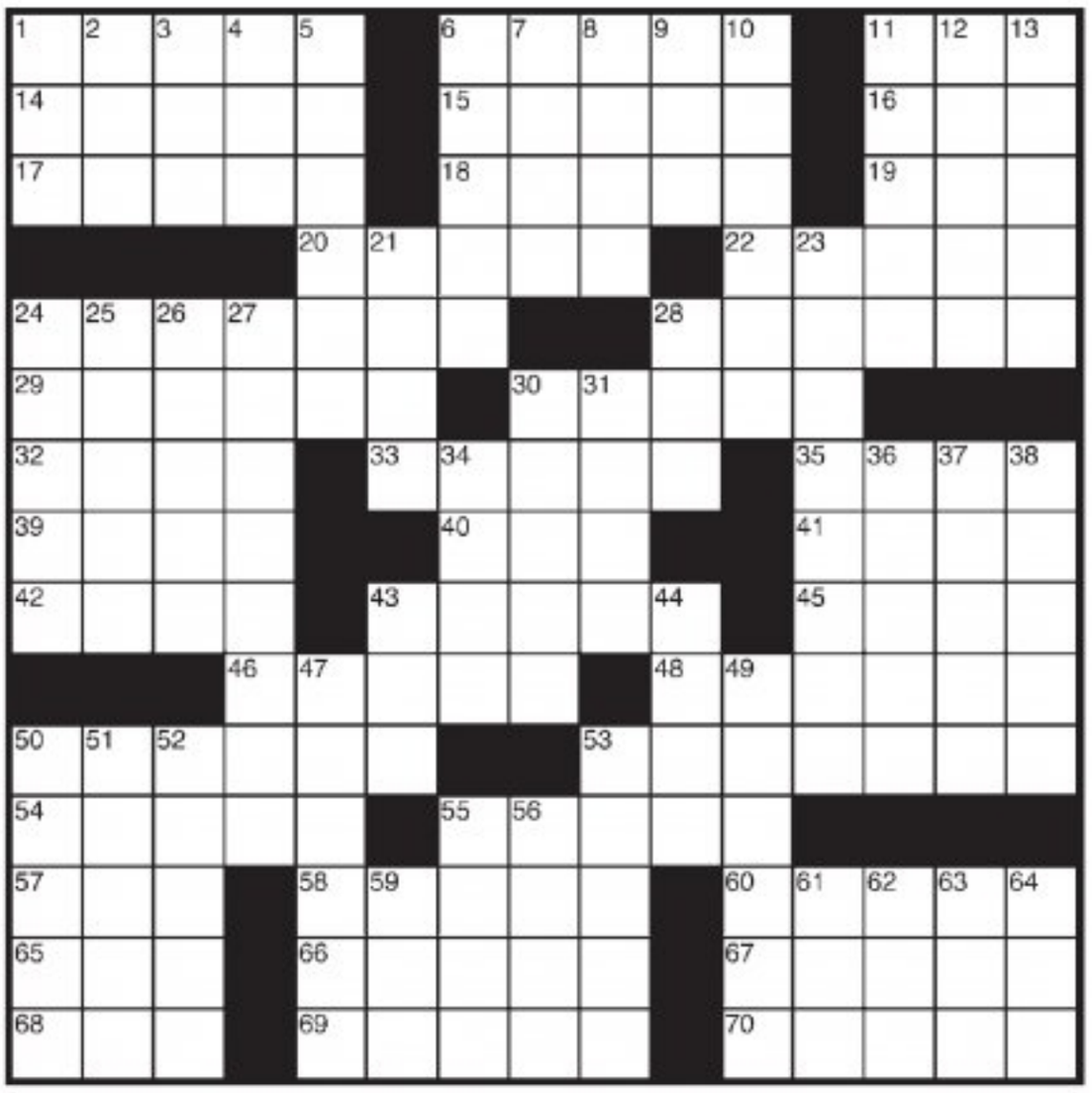
Across
1 Mend
6 Blanch
11 Final letter
14 Crinkled fabric
15 Twilled cotton
16 Krueger's street
17 Princess topper
18 Halos, of sorts
19 Pull someone's leg
20 Avoid
22 Cite
24 Pampered pets (2 wds.)
28 Tousled
29 Actress -- May
30 Farewell
32 Notch shapes
33 Left over
35 Travel far and wide
39 Q.E.D. part
40 Louis XIV, e.g.
41 Brownish-purple
42 Noted lava spewer
43 Bedside fixtures
45 R&B's -- James
46 Does in the dragon
48 Loud squawker
50 Traveled quickly
53 Kind of rhyme
54 Leafy vines
55 Boast about
57 Inventor -- Franklin
58 Rough cabin
60 Bay
65 Unit of energy
66 Scale unit
67 Gawk
68 Apply henna
69 Wasps' homes
70 Rose's defense

Down
1 Interest amt.
2 Jackie's tycoon
3 Reception
4 ER practice
5 -- confrontation (hyph.)
6 Umpteen
7 Gangster
8 Dublin's land
9 Literary compilation
10 Muezzin's temple
11 Low scores
12 Haut monde
13 Fix, as in cement
21 Curved molding
23 Coup leaders
24 Flood barrier
25 Storm warning
26 Song of triumph
27 Aversion
28 "Mamma --!"
30 They can be split
31 Trickle down
34 ER picture (hyph.)
36 Shocking
37 Oscar nominee
38 Substantial
43 Stripling
44 Made yarn
47 Period of instruction
49 Klee or Picasso
50 Agreed
51 Each
52 Faint trace
53 Uses the microwave
55 FedEx trucks
56 No. cruncher
59 Clamor
61 Last degree
62 Philosopher -- Tzu
63 Blow it
64 Dice throw



metro.us/sudoku

easy

6	8				2	1		9
			9	8			3	
					5			8
	3	4		5				
1		8		4		6		3
				3		4	9	
2			7					
	4			2	1			
3		7	4				2	5

hard

	2	7	6				9	
		6					5	8
		5		1	8		7	
		3		2	4			
2								4
			3	8		5		
	3		2	6		9		
6	9					3		
	7				3	6	8	

metro.us/horoscopes

Aries Discipline and hard work will pay off. Use your intelligence and experience to ward off a tempting offer from someone who has been a bad influence in the past.

Taurus If you share your emotions with someone you are close to, together you will come up with a unique plan that will help you avoid setbacks or additional debt.

Gemini Make travel plans or set up a business meeting that will help you decide how to move forward. Use your imagination and offer innovative ideas to seal a deal.

Cancer Plan a day trip or shopping spree or make plans to spend time with a loved one. A partnership can be taken to a new level if you discuss your intentions.

Leo Situations at home will be difficult to deal with if you have overspent or been indulgent in any way. You can have fun without going overboard. Put others first.

Virgo You'll learn through observation and mingling with people who are heading in the same direction as you. Networking functions will encourage you to develop new skills.

Libra Don't let someone from your past lead you astray or tempt you to get involved in something unsavory or imprudent. Use your intelligence and make wise choices.

Scorpio Emotional matters should be addressed in a unique manner. Catching someone's attention will help you flesh out some of the details necessary for successful plans.

Sagittarius Dig in and get things done. Your ability to turn something small into something big and meaningful will be impressive. Personal changes are encouraged.

Capricorn Check out your professional options. Using your skills in a different forum will lead to new possibilities. Personal changes can also be put into play.

Aquarius It will be difficult to contain your emotions. Don't let anger set in and take control. Opt to do your own thing, calm down and help those less fortunate.

Pisces Negotiate on your own behalf. Don't leave anything to chance or at the mercy of someone else's judgment. Get personal finances and documents in order. EUGENIA LAST

Yesterday's answers

M	A	C	A	W	■	C	A	M	P	■	C	O	O	T
A	R	E	N	A	■	A	G	A	R	■	H	A	L	O
D	O	L	T	S	■	N	E	R	O	■	A	K	I	N
A	M	T	■	S	O	N	S	■	T	H	I	E	V	E
M	A	S	C	A	R	A	■	L	E	A	R	N	E	R
■	■	■	H	I	D	■	R	O	G	U	E	■	■	■
R	E	P	E	L	■	E	A	V	E	S	D	R	O	P
A	S	H	■	■	E	D	G	E	S	■	■	F	L	A
W	E	I	G	H	T	I	E	R	■	G	I	D	D	Y
■	■	■	L	O	A	F	S	■	C	R	O	■	■	■
S	P	R	I	N	G	Y	■	F	I	A	N	C	E	E
C	R	I	N	G	E	■	L	E	V	Y	■	R	A	M
A	U	N	T	■	R	I	O	T	■	E	L	A	T	E
M	D	S	E	■	E	R	I	C	■	S	E	V	E	R
S	E	E	D	■	S	A	S	H	■	T	E	E	N	Y

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